

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON



A NEW GENUS AND THREE NEW SPECIES OF NORTH
AMERICAN MEMBRACIDAE (HEMIPTERA).

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The division of the Telamonini into genera based upon the position and shape of the dorsal crest or "horn" has been criticised in some quarters as having been based on trivial and variable characters. Especial emphasis has been laid on the fact that the pronotum is very variable and has undergone striking modifications in the adaptation of the different species. This may be true and probably is, but these apparent trivial characters seem to be correlated with other less obvious structural characters and with larval variations which indicate that the grouping brought about is in line with the evolution of the group. As natural grouping is the end sought in generic arrangement, the characters involved must be considered adequate.

A study was undertaken primarily to determine the position of a large and striking species taken by the writer in the foothills back of Pasadena, California. The species, as well as the genus, proves to be new and has been described below along with two other western treehoppers new to science.

Telonaca, n. gen.

Intermediate in structure between *Telamona* and *Glossonotus* with a slight sinuation or "step" on the posterior face of the crest in some individuals suggesting *Heliria*.

Species large, pronotum long, acuminate. Crest very variable, located behind the humeri, inclined to be acuminate but not foliaceous, usually higher than its basal width, slightly irregular in outline. Some individuals show a definite sinuation or even a sharply defined "step" on the posterior face suggesting *Heliria*. Head broad and very short. Humeral

angles much shorter than in most species of *Heliria*, about equalling *Telamona*.

Type of the genus *T. ramona*, n. sp.

Telamona pyramidata Uhl. and its allies are probably the most typical representatives of this group but as the specific limits in that complex are still uncertain it was thought best to locate the generic type elsewhere.

***Telonaca ramona*, n. sp.**

Resembling *Telamona viridia* in size and general appearance but with a much higher crest. Crest nearly as high but much wider than in *alta*. Green with a large acute or broader and slightly notched crest. Length ♀ 10-11 mm.; ♂ 9-10 mm.

Head broad and very short, the lower margin scarcely more arcuated than the upper. Humeral angles short and broad, scarcely longer than in *viridia*, shorter than in *pyramidata*. Crest quite high, twice the height of *viridia*, broader but nearly as high as in *alta*, roundly acuminate or with a slightly notched posterior outline. The crest is quite variable in basal width, only the wider examples showing the notch or slight step. Apex of the pronotum scarcely equaling the tegmina.

Color: green, tinged with brown in some of the punctures and along the carina especially over the crest. A definite black spot above either eye.

Described from a pair taken by the writer at Pasadena, California, July 31, and a pair of paratypes from Ontario, California, July 25, taken by Professor Hine. Types in the author's collection.

***Heliria rubidella*, n. sp.**

Resembling *scalaris*, slightly smaller, paler and with a much smaller and less notched crest. Length ♀ 9 mm.; ♂ 8 mm.

Head broad and short. Humeral angles blunt, broader at base than their length, shorter than in *scalaris*. Crest about one-half the size of that in *scalaris* both in height and length, slightly narrowing above with the anterior half slightly roundly raised above the level of the posterior half. The dorsal margin thus formed being sinuate and slightly sloping posteriorly to the obtuse posterior angle. Tegmina exceeding the pronotum.

Color: rich brown, mottled or washed with pale creamy on the metapodium excepting the humeral angles. A submarginal line and the carina on metapodium black with irregular white interruptions. A lunate white area on posterior face of crest set off by an irregular black margin and interrupted black markings on carina. An irregular widening of the light area extends to the lateral margin well behind the crest. An oblique, dark margined, light area opposite posterior base of crest. Tegmina with a large smoky cloud at apex covering twice the width of the apical cell.

Described from a pair taken by the writer at Fort Collins, Colorado, July 8, two paratypes from the same place and date and two taken June

28. Types in the author's collection. This species on account of the rich brown color was thought to be a western variety of *scalaris* until a larger series of that species was studied. It appears to be quite constant in the much smaller and sinuated rather than definitely stepped crest and the color pattern is quite distinctive.

Platycentrus taurinus, n. sp.

Shorter and stouter than *acuticornis* with much shorter horns. Resembling *obtusicornis*, but with horns more slender and tapering. Length ♀ 6.5 mm.; width of horns 5.5 mm.

Head broader and less arcuated at base than in *obtusicornis*, metapodium convex, coarsely punctured, rugulose. A pair of large depressed, finely shagreened callosities situated on a line with the horns and the ocelli and two pairs of smaller irregular ones outside these. A pair of horns arising directly above the humeri and extending obliquely forward and upward forming a right angle with the margin of the pronotum and curving outward and slightly backward until their acute apices extend horizontally. Viewed from above the extreme curve of the horns exceeds the metapodium. Viewed from in front they rise but little above the level of the dorsum. The horns are thick at the base, triquetrous or almost quadrangular, regularly narrowing to the acuminate apices. Anterior and posterior carinae sharp and definite, usually a carina arising from above the humeri and extending to the apex and an irregular dorsal one much broken at the base. Posterior process of pronotum broad at base then slightly inflated and rapidly roundly narrowing to an acute apex.

Color: dark brown punctured with fuscous, which is emphasized on the face, base of horns and posterior process. Carinae and coarse rugae lighter especially behind the horns and before the process. Callosities black. Tegmina hyaline, nervures distinct, brown, growing paler toward the margins; basal area fuscous adjoined by a light band which interrupts the brown on the nervures.

Described from a female taken by the writer from Cabazon, California, June 20, and five paratype females from the same place. Types in the author's collection.

This is probably the species listed by VanDuzee as *acuticornis* Stal but is quite distinct from examples of that species in the writer's collection from Mexico. It is much nearer *obtusicornis* but differs from that species in the shape and position of the horns.